

Village Board of Aldermen
**Regularly Scheduled Board of Aldermen
Meeting Minutes**

Municipal Building
Thursday, September 15, 2005
6:30pm

Members present: Michael Cooper, Jackie Mills, Rick Ashe, Merle Stalcup, Curt Strong, Suzi Epps

Members Absent:

Others Present: Dianna Zulauf – Village Secretary, Alan Rogers – Chief of Police, Debbie Charbonneau – Tourism Director, Eldon Miller – Village Treasurer, citizens: Tim Fleischer – Village Voice Newspaper, Charles Young, LaNora Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Danney McCort, Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Ruch, Jake McClure, Larry Nathanson, Mr. & Mrs. Freeman

Mayor Ashe called the meeting to order at 6:30, quorum present.

Citizen Comments: None

Alderman Mills made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes dated September 1st. Motion was seconded by Alderman Epps, motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations and/or Resolution:

Mayor Ashe presented Mr. Jake McClure of the Salado Rotary Club a Local Hero's Week proclamation and explained that the Rotary Club is honoring the local police department, fire department, and EMS service with a dinner.

Mayor Ashe presented Resolution No. 040 adopting the NIMS (National Incident Management System). The Board wished to review the actual NIMS document before adopting the resolution. This item was postponed until the next Board meeting.

(Charles Young, Larry Nathanson, & Jake McClure left at this point.)

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Rogers reported that there were nineteen criminal investigations during the month of August.

Report from Tourism Chair:

Tourism Director Debbie Charbonneau reported that the federal government has sent down a ruling to all lodging facilities to waive the state and local occupancy taxes for evacuees of hurricane Katrina that recently hit the Louisiana and Mississippi coast line.

Director Charbonneau also reported on the recent magazine ads that her department has placed and gave the Board a print out of inquiries Salado received.

Unfinished Business:

Mayor Ashe explained that item 3 of New Business needed to be moved up on the agenda due to Treasurer Miller needing to leave the meeting early.

New Business, 3.: Resolution Awarding Bid to Contractor for Renovation of New Municipal Building

Alderman Epps stated that three bids came in to renovate the new municipal building: Wright Builders, \$117,695.00; DVM Construction, \$124,000.00; B. Dalton Construction, \$182,600.00. All of these bids were larger than anticipated. Alderman Epps has drafted an analysis sheet using information and suggestions from all three contractors that shows her opinion of why these bids came in larger than anticipated and some changes that could be made to lower the cost.

Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to reject all three bids submitted and appoint a subcommittee to re-evaluate the plans and come back to the Board with another set of renovation plans to be resubmitted to the contractors. Motion was seconded by Alderman Stalcup, motion carried unanimously.

1. Adoption of 2005 – 2006 Proposed Budgets

This was the second of two public hearings on the proposed '05 – '06 budget. Treasurer Miller explained that it is obvious that the \$50,000.00 currently allocated for renovations to the new municipal building in the proposed budget is not going to be enough and suggested that the Board add \$75,000.00 more dollars from the '04 – '05 budget year to that to make the new budget reflect \$125,000.00 in Allocated Reserves (building remodeling).

On the Hotel/Motel budget, Alderman Epps explained the reason for budgeting \$25,000.00 in Research and Development was to hire a professional strategic planning consultant to market Salado.

Mayor Ashe opened the floor for comments from the audience. Danney McCort asked who was going to operate the back hoe the Village budgeted for. That has not yet been determined.

Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to adopt Ordinance No. 2005.13 adopting the Proposed 2005 – 2006 Budget as presented with the addition of \$75,000.00 to Allocated Reserves. Motion was seconded by Alderman Stalcup, motion carried unanimously.

(Eldon & LaNora Miller and Tim Fleischer left at this point)

New Business:

1. Resolution Setting Date, Time, and Place of Public Hearings for O.W. Lowrey Annexation

Mayor Ashe reminded the Board that the Village has recently received annexation petition and affidavit from the majority of the qualified voters on O.W. Lowrey Street asking the Village to annex them into the Village. Resolution No. 041 sets out three public hearings for the annexation process; September 15, September 29, and October 6, 2005.

Alderman Strong stated that the Village Engineer has looked over the area of requested annexation and drafted some water drainage concerns with an estimate of how much it might cost to repair the problems. It was suggested that the Village needs to consider options on granting the petitioners request but not being liable for the repairs on the existing drainage problems.

This is the first of three public hearings. Mayor Ashe opened the floor to comments from the audience. Mrs. Peggy Ruch stated that she and her husband are for the annexation.

Motion was made by Alderman Stalcup to adopt Resolution No. 041. Motion was seconded by Alderman Cooper, motion carried unanimously.

(Mr. & Mrs. Ruch and Mr. & Mrs. Freeman left at this point)

2. Municipal Court Laptop Computer

It was suggested that when the Village moves over to the new building a laptop computer would be needed in the court room. Alderman Stalcup has acquired a used laptop for the Village for such a purpose, however, the laptop does not have the capability to run the court docket program. This issue was postponed until a date of occupancy in the new building is set.

4. Brenno Subdivision Plat

Alderman Strong explained that he has reviewed a minor plat submitted by Donald Brenno splitting his 18.057 lot into two lots for the purpose of selling one of them. This property is located at Sulfur Wells Rd. and Blackberry Rd. It is in the Village's ETJ. Alderman Strong stated that all requirements for a minor plat are satisfied and he sees no reason to deny the request. *Motion was made by Alderman Strong to grant the request to subdivide one piece of property into two as submitted by Mr. Brenno. Motion was seconded by Alderman Stalcup, motion carried unanimously.*

5. Authorization for Clean-up of Salado Creek

Alderman Cooper stated that the last heavy rains have left an island of gravel in the middle of Salado Creek at the low water crossing in Mill Creek and several citizens are requesting the city remove the gravel. Alderman Cooper has spoken with state officials and they are claiming no jurisdiction over the creek; therefore, there are no permits the Village needs to acquire from the state to be able to remove the gravel. Two bids have been solicited to remove the gravel; the lowest bid being about \$7,500.00. Per the Villages purchasing policy, a third bid must be received. Alderman Cooper and Alderman Stalcup will continue to work on this issue. This will be put on a future agenda.

Motion was made by Alderman Strong to authorize Alderman Stalcup and Alderman Cooper to pursue bids for cleaning out the gravel in Salado Creek. Motion was seconded by Alderman Epps, motion carried unanimously.

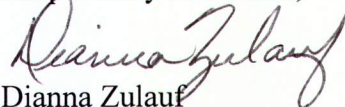
Announcements:

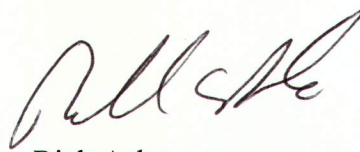
1. Next scheduled Board meeting (special called) is September 29, 2005 at 6:30PM.

Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. Motion was seconded by Alderman Mills, motion carried unanimously.

For copies of all handouts, please contact the Village office at 947-5060.

Respectfully submitted,


Dianna Zulauf
Village Secretary


Rick Ashe
Mayor

